

TASK FORCE ON THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT OF MARINE AQUACULTURE IN MAINE

Meeting #6

- Commercial fishing and its interaction with aquaculture
- Water quality and benthic impacts of aquaculture
- Mapping coastal features affecting aquaculture siting

The Boat School
16 Deep Cove Road
Eastport, Maine

November 20, 2003

Bruce J. Stedman, RESOLVE Facilitator/Mediator
Maine State Planning Office & Maine Department of Marine Resources, Technical Staff

DRAFT AGENDA

COMMENTS PLEASE TO BRUCE STEDMAN (bstedman@resolv.org)

Meeting Objectives:

- Hear directly from the members of the public on what they see as important issues needing to be addressed
- Learn about commercial fishing interaction with aquaculture
- Learn about water quality and benthic impacts of aquaculture sites
- Discuss use of GIS mapping as tool for aquaculture planning
- Develop Task Force and subgroup decision making process
- Begin to develop draft recommendations based on subgroup break-out sessions
- Develop structure for December 4-5 Brunswick working meeting

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2003

7:00 – 10:00 pm

Public Meeting

Bruce Stedman
Facilitator

Purpose: Receive advice and comment from the public on aquaculture.

Expected Outcomes:

- Understand public perspectives on aquaculture issues.

Materials: None

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2003

7:30 – 8:00 am Gather

8:00 – 8:30 am **Task Force Review of Brunswick Meeting and Results of Blaine House Summit**

Paul Anderson
Task Force Chair

- Review minutes of November 6 Brunswick meeting
- Review draft recommendations from Brunswick meeting
- Debriefing of Blaine House Summit (took place on 11/17)

Josie Quintrell
Task Force Vice-Chair

Van Perry
Task Force Member

Materials: Draft Brunswick minutes, Draft recommendations (handed out at meeting), Paul Anderson's summary of the Blaine House Summit (handed out at meeting)

8:30 – 8:45 am **Presentation of Finalized Coastal Features Maps**

John Sowles
DMR

Materials: John will hang large maps on the walls for viewing throughout the morning and over lunch. Smaller handouts will also be provided.

8:45 – 10:00 am **Commercial Fishing Panel**

Bruce McInnis
*Cobscook Bay
Fishermen's
Association*

Randy Newcomb
*Commercial
Fisherman*

TBD

Purpose: To discuss the interactions between commercial fishing and aquaculture including comments on the existing lease process and site criteria.

Expected Outcomes: Determine if changes are needed to address concerns heard.

Materials: None

10:00 – 11:00 am **Water Quality and Benthic Impacts Discussion**

John Sowles
DMR

Roger Fleming
CLF

Purpose: Explanation of water quality and benthic impacts of aquaculture in Maine, existing regulatory oversight, and environmental monitoring programs.

Expected Outcomes: Determination of adequacy of existing programs to ensure protection of water quality in aquaculture lease areas, and of the ability of monitoring to respond to threats identified in Maine.

Materials: White paper from John Sowles; White paper from Roger Fleming; University review of John Sowles' White paper; MEPDES permit (sent out with briefing book materials)

11:00 – 11:15 am **Break**

- 11:15– 11:30 am **SAP response**
Purpose: Specific suggestions from SAP members to address concerns heard in preceding sessions.
Materials: None
- 11:30 – 12:30 pm **Task Force Decision-Making Process**
Purpose: Develop method for finalizing recommendations within Task Force and subgroups, including determination of what constitutes “consensus” for the Task Force.
Materials: Issue summaries by subgroup (generated by staff and provided at meeting)
- 12:30-1:15 pm **Lunch**
- 1:15 – 1:45 pm **Coastal Features Maps Discussion**
John Sowles
DMR
Purpose: Explanation and discussion of existing opportunities and constraints for aquaculture siting.
Outcome: Use GIS technology as a tool to achieve coast-wide perspective of potential for aquaculture expansion.
Materials: Maps distributed during AM session.
- 1:45 – 3:30 pm **Subgroup Meetings**
Purpose: Subgroup discussion of assigned topic areas.
Outcome: Begin to draft recommendations for full Task Force consideration.
Materials: Issue summaries by subgroup (generated by staff and provided at meeting)
- 3:30 –3:45 pm **Break**
- 3:45– 4:45 pm **Task Force Discussion**
Purpose: Report back from subgroups, discuss schedule for Dec 4-5 Brunswick meeting.
Outcome: Begin to draft recommendations based on subgroup reports from earlier session
Materials: Issue summaries by subgroup (generated by staff and provided at meeting); draft schedule for Brunswick

4:45 – 5:00 pm **SAP Response**

Purpose: Specific suggestions from SAP members to address concerns heard in preceding sessions.

Materials: None

5:00 pm **Adjourn**